

FAX RECEIVED**MAY 28 2002****GROUP 1600****USSN 09/214,478****Philip E. Branton et al.**

Applicants propose to (i) cancel claims 84, 89, and 96; (2) amend independent claim 81 to refer to intratumor injection; and (3) amend dependent the dependent claims to remove reference to cancelled claims 84, 89, and 96. Applicants believe these amendments address the remaining issues identified by the Examiner in the March 5, 2002 Advisory Action.

Clean version of proposed amended claims

81. A method of inducing apoptosis of a cell, said method comprising (a) administering to said cell by intratumoral injection a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 4 and capable of inducing apoptosis, said nucleic acid operably linked to a heterologous regulatory sequence for expression of said polypeptide, and (b) expressing said nucleic acid in said cell, wherein expressing said nucleic acid in said cell induces apoptosis of said cell.

85. The method of claim 81, wherein said regulatory sequence is capable of expressing said nucleic acid in a constitutive, inducible, or cell-type specific manner.

86. The method of claim 81, wherein said nucleic acid is in an adenoviral vector or a retroviral vector.

87. The method of claim 81, wherein said cell is a cancer cell.

88. A pharmaceutical composition comprising (i) an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 4 and capable of inducing apoptosis, and (ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to a heterologous regulatory sequence for expression of said polypeptide in a mammalian cell.

92. The composition of claim 88, wherein said regulatory sequence is capable of expressing said nucleic acid in a constitutive, inducible, or cell-type specific manner.

93. The composition of claim 88, wherein said nucleic acid is in an adenoviral vector or a retroviral vector.

95. An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 4 and capable of inducing apoptosis,